What Is Hack4Hope?

Hack4Hope is a unique learning opportunity for underserved youth in the St. Louis area in 7th through 12th grades. Our mission is to create inroads to innovative careers for underserved youth in the St. Louis Gateway area. Hack4Hope provides STEAM educational opportunities and events to help heal the social and economic divisions of St. Louis.

Hack4Hope includes both a weekend hackathon event as well as the Hack4Hope Academy, which provides ongoing community and educational opportunities to our students. Hack4Hope will be held July 10th – 12th at T-REX, a vibrant and innovative space in downtown St. Louis that is home to over 100 local start-ups.

"Hacking" is about exploring the limits of what is possible. Hackathons gather together young technologists, problem solvers and their mentors in order to brainstorm, design and build a web or mobile app that can change the world, create a business, or both. Our calendar of activities will give students the power to transform their worlds through social innovation, education and technology.

Hack4Hope Academy provides students the following opportunities:
- Pre-Hackathon preparation sessions
- Weekend hackathon event
- Advanced technical courses
- Professional skills development courses
- Career path coaching and placement
- Meet-up groups
- Online community

Filmmaker and St. Louisan Nicole Franklin and a committee of dedicated community leaders invited local partners to join with her to create this annual event. We want to make sure St. Louis-area youth in low-opportunity communities engage and prepare for college and career opportunities with early-access and immersive opportunities. Currently, a strong pipeline to opportunity for isolated youth in St. Louis, its counties, and surrounding suburbs does not exist, leaving these youth economically disenfranchised and politically marginalized.

Our partners make it possible for us to provide dynamic and exciting learning experiences in technology to underserved youth in the St. Louis area. Our partners currently include:
- EPIPHANY Inc.
- Education Exchange Corps
- ITEN
- Organize411
- LaunchCode
- United Way/Service Works
- T-Rex
- Microsoft
- Parkway School District
- Blue 1647
- SLATE (St. Louis Agency on Training and Employment)

For information on how to become a sponsor or how to volunteer for the event, please email Hack4Hope@gmail.com or view our website at www.hack4hope.com.